

BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE

Verbatim Text of Cross Examination of Fourth Prosecution Witness

(Continued from yesterday) Following are the excerpts from the cross-examination held on July 29 (Tuesday) of Mohammad Qudus Sikhder by Mahfuzur Rahman, state defence lawyer for absconding accused...

at my house in Dhaka and run a grocery's shop. Q: Do you own the house you live in? A: Yes, it is my own house. Q: How did you come back to the country from Pakistan? A: Under a repatriated agreement with the Pakistan government...

Jallil. Q: You did not do your duty there for 24 hours on that day. A: It's not true. Q: What is the responsibility of President's Guard Regiment? A: To ensure the security of the President...

League leader Abdur Razzak? A: I don't know him and never met him. Q: What was the number of attackers from the lake side? A: Approximately 50 to 60. Q: How did they come, by jeep? A: How did they come I did not see, but they were running...

other bodies. A: Those were taken from there, but where I do not know. Q: Did you go to Tungipara? A: No, I didn't. Q: When did you get the salary of July, 1975 from? A: I received that on 19/20 August in Comilla. Q: Did you know Risalder Moslemuddin? A: Yes. Q: You did not know Risalder Moslemuddin...

the incidents to take place at that house? A: No. Q: Did you know beforehand why the army intruders went to Bangabandhu's house on August 15? A: No. Q: Were you scared when firing was on? A: Yes. Q: Do you say your prayers? A: I do. Q: Did you say your jazar prayers on that day? A: Yes, I did. Q: When the azan was made and when was the prayers time? A: Azan was made at about 4.15 am and the prayers at 4.30 am...

Q: You were a very reliable person of the Pakistan government. A: No, I wasn't. Q: Where was your family till you came back to the country? A: They were with me. Q: Did you get your salary regularly? A: I used to get an allowance. Q: Did you come out of the barrack wearing your full uniform? A: Yes. Q: How long did it take to come to your working place from the barrack? A: Five to six minutes. Q: Who did hoist the flag on August 14 when you left that house after handing over your charge? A: I hoisted the flag. Q: Where you on duty at that time? A: I was till 6 am. Q: You were to follow the command of your officer Captain Bashir. A: Yes. Q: With whom of the majors you went upstairs, did you have the permission to go with them? A: No, there was no permission, but I went there as I was ordered by Captain Bazul Huda. Q: There was no duty of Bazul Huda in that house. A: Yes, he never had any duty in that house. Q: Your arms remain loaded when you were on duty. A: No. Q: It was not that the arms kept for President's security have no ammunition. A: The arms are not kept loaded. Q: Did you receive the ammunition from Havilder Gani after you joined the duty? A: No. Q: You started doing formal work, including hoisting the national flag, after you take charge of your duty. A: It is not true. Q: Did you meet Havilder Gani on that day? A: I met him before I hoisted the flag. Q: When did you meet him later? A: After the killing incident at about 10 am. Q: You did not receive the ammunition from him at that time even. A: I couldn't. Q: When were you with the majors, where were those rest 8 people of your group? A: They also worked as per order of Captain Bazul Huda. Q: They acted as per your order as they were under your command. A: Not true. Q: When did you come to join your duty on August 13? A: At 5.30 am. Q: From Comilla you came to that house for duty on your own initiative. A: It is not true. Q: The killing took place under your command. A: It is not true. Q: None of you were brought to line up. A: No. Q: After that you were never suspended nor arrested. A: No. Q: You are putting blame on others after conducting the killing by yourself. A: It is not true.

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Tom and Jerry



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James Bond



5th Health and Population Project being formulated

A high-profile health project is being formulated, laying utmost importance on accountability and transparency in the health sector, reports BSS. The project titled "The Fifth Health and Population Project (HAPP-5)" will be implemented during the period 1998-2003 with technical support from the World Bank. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will implement the project allover the country. Meanwhile, the ministry has prepared a health and population sector strategy (HPSS) through a consultative process, with inputs from government officials, NGOs, private sector, clients, UN agencies and donors. The HAPP-5 preparation task force, headed by an additional secretary of the ministry, has been working on formulation of the project with the consensus of the government, donors and other stakeholders, aimed at sustained progress towards improving the health status and slowing down the rate of population growth in Bangladesh.

Other health services will be expanded and improved through partnerships with or commissioning of services to NGOs and private not-for-profit hospitals and through a larger and better regulated role of the government for the private sector. Improvement of the public sector hospitals will involve greater autonomy of management combined with local accountability and community participation. The HPSS document said the resource constraints for meeting the future demand for health and family planning services would require improved efficiency and expanded cost recovery in the public sector. Proper attention will be given to the equality aspect in cost recovery, particularly in respect of the women and the extremely poor, it said.

Rafiq hands over cheque to Kaundia UP chairman



Home Minister Rafiqul Islam speaking at a workshop organised by the Hunger Project in the city yesterday. — PID photo

Home Minister Rafiqul Islam yesterday handed over a cheque of Tk 5,000 to Saiful Alam Khan, Kaundia Union Parishad chairman in Savar thana, for his cooperation in arms recovery and arresting three dacoits, reports UNB. On February 15 this year, Saiful Alam held three dacoits at his union with the help of people as they were fleeing after committing dacoity at Mirpur in Dhaka. He also recovered a single barrel gun and two rammadoes from them. The Home Minister handed over the cheque on behalf of Dhaka district administration in recognition of his courageous acts. DIG of Dhaka range, Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of Dhaka district were present at the function held at the office of the Home Minister.

Hunger Project holds workshop

Home Minister Rafiqul Islam, Bir Uttam, yesterday stressed the need for mobilising the youth to free the country from hunger and poverty, reports BSS. "Our young generation will have to be built with self-devotion," he said while speaking at a workshop, organised by the Hunger Project Bangladesh, held at the Planning and Development Academy as chief guest. The four-day workshop was addressed by, State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader as special guest, director of the Hunger Project Dr Badiul Alam Majaumdar and director general of the Youth Development Directorate. The workshop was conducted by Andree Davis and Anny Lenlan.

Mannan slates attack on party leaders

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan has condemned the attacks on party leaders in Barisal and Shariatpur districts by the terrorists of "ruling Awami League", reports UNB. In a statement yesterday, he said the "Awami" terrorists on July 25 attacked Lokman Hossain Hawlader, Moria Thana unit BNP vice-president in Shariatpur district, and cut his tendons. In Gourmadi thana of Barisal district, the terrorists of the "ruling party" looted and occupied the house of local BNP leader and UP member Karom Ali.

KDA, Aqua Shell-take sign agreement

KHULNA, July 30: Aqua Shell-take, a consultant firm, has been appointed to implement the Khulna Development Authority's (KDA) master plan of the city on Monday last, reports BSS. KDA chairman Colonel Md Abul Salam and managing directors of the consulting firm Khandaker Mezbah Ahmed and Salma-A-Shafi jointly signed an agreement in this respect. The project is expected to be implemented during the next two years time at a cost of Taka one crore. The function was attended, among others, by the chief of the consultant firm Md Nurul Islam, executive engineer of KDA Abdul Jabbar, Kazi Khalilur Rahman and authorised officer Ohid Azgar.

BNP Gopalganj committee dissolved

The BNP dissolved its Gopalganj district committee and announced a 133-member convening committee with Saiful Rahman Nantu as convenor, reports UNB. According to a BNP press release, the convening committee has been asked to reorganize the thana committees and form a full-fledged district committee by holding conference within three months. Moniruzzaman Pinu, Kazi Nazrul Islam Advocate, Abdul Hannan Munshi, Shankar Kumar Mitra, Fazlur Rahman Mollah, Nazrul Islam (Anu Munshi), Anwar Hossain Hawlader and Glasuddin Khan Jhantu have been made joint convenors of the committee.